



Department of Energy

Washington, DC 20585

November 12, 1999

MEMORANDUM FOR DISTRIBUTION

FROM: David Michaels, PhD, MPH
Assistant Secretary
Environment, Safety and Health

SUBJECT: Support for the *Chemical Safety '99 Workshop* -
December 14-16, 1999, Forrestal Auditorium

Since 1994, more attention has been directed toward chemical safety vulnerabilities that have the real potential to cause harm to the public, our workers, and the environment. The Department has made progress in addressing these vulnerabilities through enhancements to our safety programs and partnerships with industry.

As a continuation of these efforts, the Department of Energy (DOE) and the Energy Facility Contractors Group (EGCOG) are sponsoring the DOE/EFCOG *Chemical Safety '99 Workshop* in the Forrestal auditorium on December 14-16, 1999. The theme is "Chemical Safety and Integrated Safety Management (ISM) - Incorporating Chemical Safety into an ISM Program." I am asking for your support in encouraging your line managers to participate in the workshop and in follow-on efforts.

We expect the workshop to bring together Federal and contractor line managers and safety professionals to promote communication and cooperation throughout Headquarters and the field and to share successes, lessons learned, and best practices. The workshop's goals include developing expectations for making chemical safety an integral part of ISM and identifying a path forward to achieving excellence in chemical safety performance.

I will be welcoming the group on the morning of the first day, and Mr. Joseph DiNunno of the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board will discuss the Board's perspective on chemical safety and ISM. That afternoon, there will be a closed door, invitation-only session for senior managers and chemical industry representatives to discuss management perspectives on chemical safety. This is a unique opportunity for your managers, and I particularly encourage their participation in the workshop and in the open discussion that immediately follows.

Thank you for supporting this important and timely workshop. The preliminary agenda is attached. For more information, please contact Dr. George Schlossnagle of my staff on 301-903-9418 or through electronic mail at george.schlossnagle@eh.doe.gov.

Attachment

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